

WI-576  
Albert W. Lankford House  
Salisbury  
Private

1889

Salisbury contractor Albert Washington Lankford (1858-1897) financed construction of this well-detailed Victorian dwelling in 1889 after his acquisition of the William Street lot from Isabella Humphreys for \$500. The asymmetrically designed main block has a forward projecting two-story, gable-roofed pavilion finished with extended eaves, fishscale shingles, and decorated rafter tails. The north pavilion, as well as one of the west side, extend the main block, which is covered by a gable-on-hip roof. The multiple roof angles provide a complex and distinctive interplay of intersecting angles. The A. W. Lankford house stands out on William Street with its well-preserved exterior.

A. W. Lankford was a principal masonry contractor in Salisbury and for a period was in partnership with builder Thomas M. Slemons. Albert W. Lankford was involved in many of the major masonry projects on the lower Shore including the 1891 Washington Academy, the 1895 Caroline County Courthouse, and an undocumented number of buildings in Salisbury before and after the 1886 fire.

Albert W. Lankford died at the young age of 39 and left his wife Elizabeth with three young children. During the early twentieth century the William Street residence was occupied by Elizabeth, two daughters, Alma and Nellie, and a son, George. Also occupying the house was Albert's sister Cora and his mother, Nancy Lankford. Lankford family ownership of the William Street property lasted until the late 1940s.

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. WI-576

### 1. Name of Property

(indicate preferred name)

historic

Albert W. Lankford House

other

### 2. Location

street and number

106 East William Street

not for publication

city, town

Salisbury

county

Wicomico

vicinity

### 3. Owner of Property

(give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name

Jeryl Matthew and Lori Patton Bier

street and number

106 East William Street

telephone

city, town

Salisbury

state

MD

zip code 21801

### 4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc.

Wicomico County Clerk of Court

liber 1314

folio 245

city, town

Salisbury

tax map 107

tax parcel 816

tax ID number 5-021413

### 5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- ☐ Contributing Resource in National Register District
- ☐ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
- ☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
- ☐ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
- ☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER
- ☐ Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

### 6. Classification

#### Category

- ☐ district
- ☒ building(s)
- ☐ structure
- ☐ site
- ☐ object

#### Ownership

- ☐ public
- ☒ private
- ☐ both

#### Current Function

- ☐ agriculture
- ☐ commerce/trade
- ☐ defense
- ☒ domestic
- ☐ education
- ☐ funerary
- ☐ government
- ☐ health care
- ☐ industry
- ☐ landscape
- ☐ recreation/culture
- ☐ religion
- ☐ social
- ☐ transportation
- ☐ work in progress
- ☐ unknown
- ☐ vacant/not in use
- ☐ other: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Resource Count

Contributing

1

Noncontributing

- ☐ buildings
- ☐ sites
- ☐ structures
- ☐ objects
- ☐ Total

Number of Contributing Resource  
previously listed in the Inventory

\_\_\_\_\_

## 7. Description

Inventory No. WI-576

### Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Albert W. Lankford house stands at 106 East William Street in the Newtown Historic District of Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland. The two-and-a-half story, asymmetrically planned Victorian house faces north with the principal gable roof oriented on a north/south axis.

Built around 1889, the two-and-a-half story, gable-front frame dwelling rests on a low brick foundation, and the exterior is clad with a combination of plain weatherboards and fishscale shingles. The steeply pitched jerkinhead roof with multiple gable roofed extensions is covered with slate. Attached to the back of the main block is a two-story service wing, which is extended farther south with a shed roofed addition.

The north (main) elevation is an asymmetrical elevation with a projecting gable-front pavilion extending forward of the main block.. A large single-pane sash window pierces the first floor, and the opening is flanked by wide louvered shutters. The first floor is sheltered by a chamfered post porch with simple corner brackets. The second floor is lighted by a two-over-two sash window, and the gable end is pierced by a multi-paned window surrounded by a field of fishscale shingles. The edge of the roof is extended, and the soffits are open. Victorian corner brackets support the lower end of the rafter tails. The porch shelters the adjacent entrance, which is located in the recessed wall of the main block. A pair of double doors is topped by a three-light transom. The main block is covered by a jerkinhead roof, which has a louvered vent in the upper most gable. The house is served by internal brick stove chimneys.

The west side of the house is defined by a two-story, single-bay pavilion with two-over-two sash windows lighting the first and second stories. The windows are flanked by louvered shutters. Finishing the gable end is a sheathing of vertical board-and-batten siding, which is pierced by a multi-paned window. The edges of the roof are finished with extended eaves and open soffits.

The east side of the house features a pair of single-story bay windows capped by hip roofs of slate. Attached to the back of the main block is a two-story service wing with extended eaves and open soffits. An interior end brick stove chimney pierces the gable end. The kitchen wing is extended by a single-story open and enclosed shed roofed porch the east and south sides. A second shed roofed section extends the house farther south.

The interior was not seen.

## 8. Significance

Inventory No. WI-576

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science	
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history	
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:	

Specific dates

Architect/Builder Albert W. Lankford, contractor

Construction dates 1889

Evaluation for:

☐ National Register

☐ Maryland Register

☒ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

Salisbury contractor Albert Washington Lankford (1858-1897) financed construction of this well detailed Victorian dwelling in 1889 after his acquisition of the William Street lot from Isabella Humphreys for \$500.<sup>1</sup> The asymmetrically designed main block has a forward projecting two-story gable-roofed pavilion finished with extended eaves and decorated rafter tails. The north pavilion, as well as one on the west side, extend the main block, which is covered by a gable-on-hip roof. The multiple roof angles provide a complex interplay of intersecting slopes. The A. W. Lankford house stands out on William Street with its well-preserved exterior.

Albert W. Lankford was a principal masonry contractor in Salisbury in partnership with builder Thomas M. Slemons. Albert W. Lankford was involved in many of the major masonry projects on the lower Shore including the 1891 Washington Academy, the 1895 Caroline County Courthouse, and an undocumented number of buildings in Salisbury before and after the 1886 fire.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Wicomico County Land Record, FMS 5/25, 2 May 1889.

<sup>2</sup> Personal conversation with Wilmer O. Lankford, August 2, 2001.

# Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. WI-576

Name Albert W. Lankford House  
**Continuation Sheet**

Number 8 Page 1

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Albert W. Lankford House  
106 East William Street  
Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland

Chain of title  
Tax Map 107, Parcel 816

1314/245 Raymond C. Mister

to

11/6/1992 Jeryl Matthew Bier  
Lori Patton Bier

AJS 969/643 Donald L. Duvall  
Diana J. Duvall

to

1/29/1982 Raymond C. Mister

AJS 926/297 Stephens-Stewart, Inc.

to

8/17/1979 Donald L. Duvall

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. WI-576

Name Albert W. Lankford House  
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 2

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JWTS 794/144

William K. Haslam, Sr.  
Barbara Ann Daniels Haslam

to

6/13/1973

Stephens-Weisner Associates  
(later Stephens-Stewart, Inc.)

JWTS 626/70

Elmer F. Ruark and wife

to

3/1/1966

William K. Haslam, Sr.

JAH 7/293

Last Will and Testament of A. Dorothea Wilcox

to

11/13/1961

Elmer F. Ruark

JWTS 299/299

Nellie L. Forney, et al. (Nelson J. Forney, Kent Co., De.; George Albert Lankford, Alice C. Lankford, Edward V. Lankford, and Ida C. Lankford)

to

3/10/1948

A. Dorothea Wilcox  
John S. T. Wilcox  
...upon the death of Albert W. Lankford the property descended unto  
Elizabeth P. Lankford and children, Nellie Lankford Forney, etc.

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. WI-576

Name Albert W. Lankford House  
**Continuation Sheet**

Number 8 Page 3

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FMS 5/25

Isabella Humphreys

to

5/2/1889

Albert Washington Lankford  
\$500 ¼ acre

T.F.J.R 3/448

Benjamin Parsons

to

12/2/1873

Isabella Humphreys

1907 Salisbury City Directory

Mrs. Elizabeth Lankford, 106 East William Street

Alma Lankford, student

Cora Lankford, stenographer (sister of Albert, died 12/26/1897)

George Lankford, student

Mrs. Nancy Lankford (mother of Albert)

Nellie Lankford, student

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. WI-576

Salisbury City Directory, 1907, transcribed by Neill Keddle.

Wicomico County Land Records, various volumes, Wicomico County Courthouse.

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 9,514 square feet  
Acreage of historical setting 9,514 square feet  
Quadrangle name Salisbury, Maryland

Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

### Verbal boundary description and justification

The metes and bounds of this property are coincidental with the current boundary of the lot.

## 11. Form Prepared by

name/title	Paul B. Touart, Architectural Historian		
organization	Private Consultant	date	7/30/2001
street & number	P. O. Box 5	telephone	410-651-1094
city or town	Westover	state	Maryland 21871

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
DHCD/DHCP  
100 Community Place  
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023  
410-514-7600



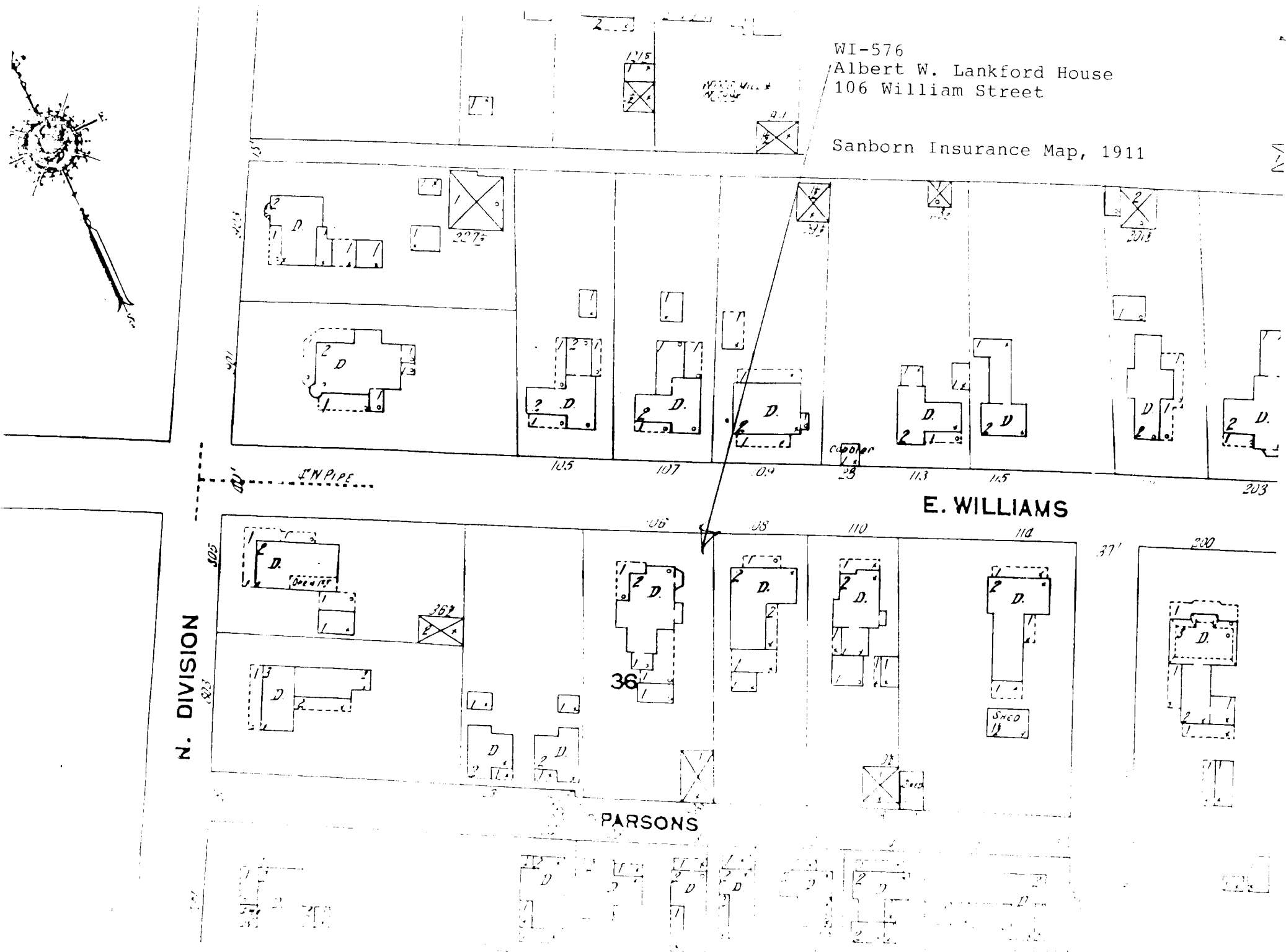
WI-576  
Albert W. Lankford House  
106 William Street

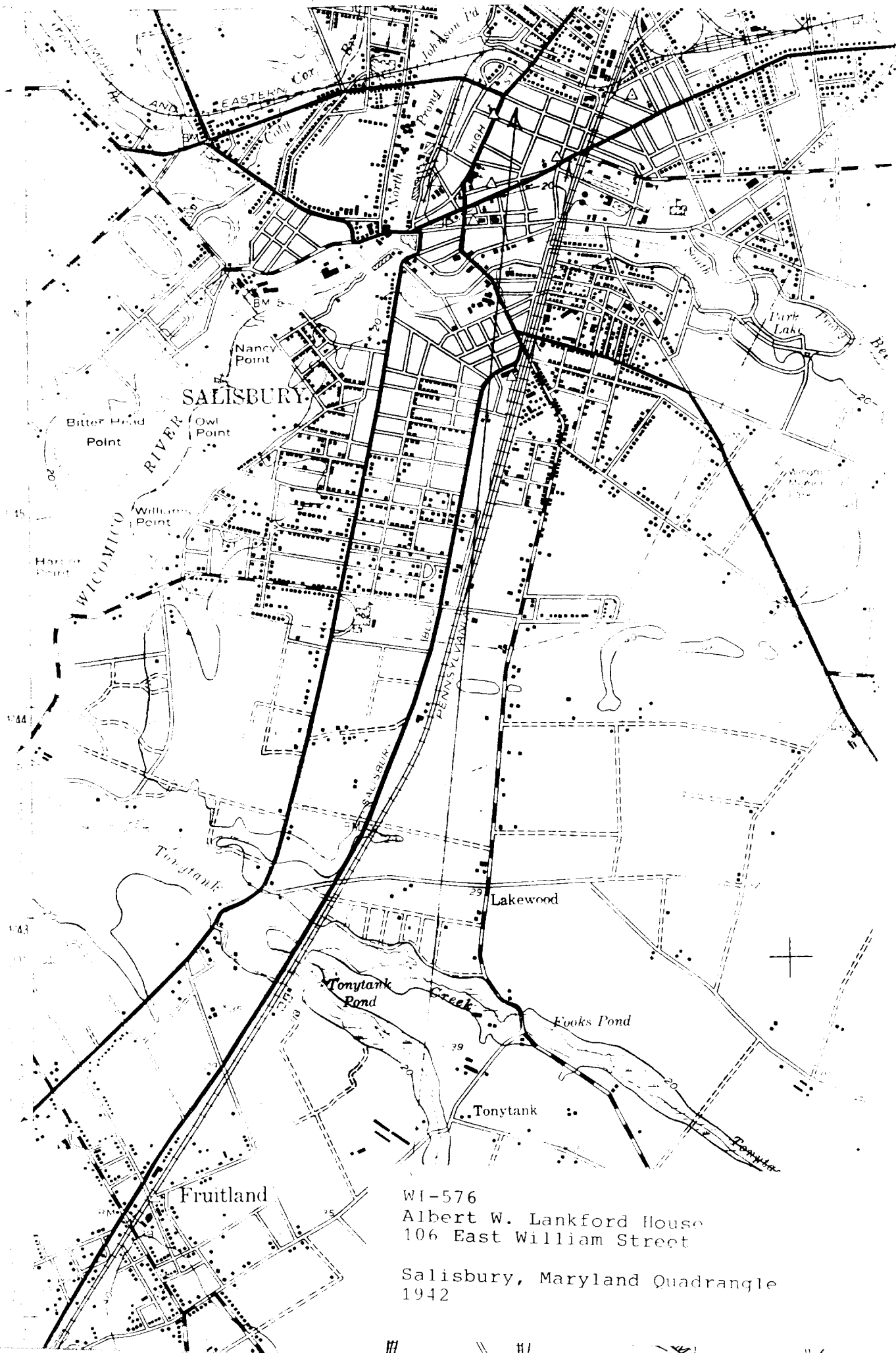
Sanborn Insurance Map, 1911

N. DIVISION

E. WILLIAMS

PARSONS





WI-576  
Albert W. Lankford House  
106 East William Street  
Salisbury, Maryland Quadrangle  
1942



W1 576

ALBERT W. LANKFORD House  
SALISBURY, Wicomico Co., MD.

Northwest elevation

8/01. PAUL TOURNEY PHOTOGRAPHED

NEL / MD. HISTORIC TRUST

1 of 3



W1-576

ALBERT W. LARSEN'S 1 house  
SALISBURY, Wicomico Co., Md.

NORTH ELEVATION

8/01, PAUL TOWANT, PHOTOGRAPHER

WEL / MD HISTORICAL TRUST

2 of 3



WI-576

ALBERT W. LANKFORD House

Salisbury, Wicomico Co., Md.

SOUTH ELEVATION

8/01, PAUL TOWANT, PHOTOGRAPHER

NEW J. MD. HISTORICAL TRUST

3 of 3